From: Licensing [mailto:DSS_LICENSING@LISTSERV.COV.VIRGINIA.GOV] On Behalf Of Williams,

Edwina (VDSS)

Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2014 3:41 PM

To: DSS_Licensing

Subject: Make a Pledge To Help Keep Children Safe; Look Before You Lock

This file is being sent to voluntarily registered providers from the Virginia Department of Social Services Email Distribution Service.

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Where's baby (with the picture of a car in the direct sunlight located between the two words)? Look before you lock.

The summer months can be incredibly dangerous for children in cars. According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, in 2013, **44 children** died of heatstroke across the United States.

These deaths can be prevented, and in many cases, a simple communication plan between parents and child care/Head Start providers could save a child's life. In an arrival confirmation plan, parents notify providers when their children will be late or absent, and providers contact parents if a child does not arrive as expected. This kind of basic plan creates a safety net to help make sure that no child gets left in a car.

Parents and providers can take Ray Ray's Pledge to communicate about planned and unexpected absences here. Take the pledge and encourage the parents and providers in your life to do the same!



Ray Ray's Pledge.



Office of Child Care
Administration for Children and Families
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Aerospace Building, Fifth Floor East
370 L'Enfant Promenade, S.W.
Washington, DC 20447
General office number: (202) 690-6782

Fax: (202) 690-5600

General e-mail: occ@acf.hhs.gov